

What is Claimed is:

1. A device for combining components, comprising:
 - a) a hollow member and a rotor within the hollow member, wherein the rotor rotates in a first combining mode; and
 - b) a plurality of fins extending outwardly from the hollow member, wherein the hollow member rotates in a second combining mode.
2. The device of Claim 1, further comprising an interlock assembly adapted to permit selectively operating the device in the first combining mode or the second combining mode.
3. The device of Claim 2, wherein the interlock assembly is adapted to permit the rotor to rotate independent of the hollow member in the first combining mode and to interlock the hollow member and the rotor so that the hollow member rotates with the rotor in the second combining mode.
4. The device of Claim 3, wherein the interlock assembly is adapted to restrict rotation of the hollow member in the first combining mode.
5. The device of Claim 2, wherein the interlock assembly comprises a first one-way bearing mounted to the rotor and the hollow member.
6. The device of Claim 5, wherein the first one-way bearing is adapted to permit the rotor to rotate in a first direction independent of the hollow member in the first combining mode and to interlock the hollow member and the rotor so that the hollow member rotates with the rotor in a second opposite direction in the second combining mode.

7. The device of Claim 6, further comprising an external housing and an actuator, wherein the interlock assembly comprises a second one-way bearing mounted to the hollow member and the external housing or the actuator.
8. The device of Claim 7, wherein the second one-way bearing is adapted to restrict rotation of the hollow member when the rotor is rotated in the first direction in the first combining mode and to permit the interlocked hollow member and rotor to rotate in the second opposite direction independent of the external housing.
9. The device of Claim 1, wherein the rotor has one or more blades and the hollow member has a plurality of windows defined therein in alignment with the rotor blades.
10. The device of Claim 9, wherein the windows are interposed between the fins.
11. The device of Claim 1, wherein the fins are angled to induce radial and axial flow of the components in the second combining mode.
12. The device of Claim 1, further comprising a collar that is removably mounted to the hollow member and that has the fins mounted thereto.
13. The device of Claim 1, further comprising an actuator operably coupled to the rotor.
14. The device of Claim 1, wherein the rotor and the hollow member are configured perform high-shear homogenizing in the first combining mode to and to perform low-shear mixing in the second combining mode.

15. A device for combining components, comprising:
- a) a hollow member and a rotor having one or more blades that rotate within the hollow member in a first combining mode to perform high-shear homogenizing;
 - b) a plurality of fins extending outwardly from the hollow member, wherein the hollow member rotates in a second combining mode to perform low-shear mixing;
 - c) an actuator operably coupled to the rotor; and
 - c) an interlock assembly adapted to permit selectively operating the device in the first combining mode or the second combining mode, wherein the interlock assembly is adapted to permit the rotor to rotate independent of the hollow member and to restrict rotation of the hollow member in the first combining mode, and to interlock the hollow member and the rotor so that the hollow member rotates with the rotor in the second combining mode.
16. The device of Claim 15, wherein the interlock assembly comprises a first one-way bearing mounted to the rotor and the hollow member, wherein the first one-way bearing is adapted to permit the rotor to rotate in a first direction independent of the hollow member in the first combining mode and to interlock the hollow member and the rotor so that the hollow member rotates with the rotor in a second opposite direction in the second combining mode.

17. The device of Claim 16, further comprising an external housing for the actuator, wherein the interlock assembly comprises a second one-way bearing mounted to the hollow member and the external housing or the actuator, wherein the second one-way bearing is adapted to restrict rotation of the hollow member when the rotor is rotated in the first direction in the first combining mode and to permit the interlocked hollow member and rotor to rotate in the second opposite direction independent of the external housing.
18. The device of Claim 17, wherein the actuator comprises a reversible motor that is operable in the first direction or the second opposite direction for operating the device in the first combining mode or the second combining mode
19. The device of Claim 15, wherein the hollow member has a plurality of windows defined therein in alignment with the rotor blades and interposed between the fins.
20. The device of Claim 15, wherein the fins are angled to induce radial and axial flow of the components in the second combining mode.
21. The device of Claim 15, further comprising a collar that is removably mounted to the hollow member and that has the fins mounted thereto.

22. A method of combining components, comprising:
- a) providing a device for combining components;
 - b) operating the device in a first combining mode;
 - c) resetting the device for operation in a second combining mode without adding, removing, or changing any elements of the device; and
 - d) operating the device in the second combining mode.
23. The method of Claim 22, wherein the device comprises a hollow member with a plurality of fins extending outwardly therefrom and a rotor having at least one blade disposed therein, and wherein the step of operating the device in the first combining mode comprises rotating the rotor blade within the hollow member, and the step of operating the device in the second combining mode comprises interlocking the hollow member and the rotor and rotating the rotor.
24. The method of Claim 22, wherein the step of operating the device in the first combining mode comprises performing high-shear homogenizing of the components, and the step of operating the device in the second combining mode comprises performing low-shear mixing of the components.